Mr. I. C. Chacko (*Ag. Chief Engineer*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The work is estimated to cost about Rs. 45,000. As there is no chance of providing funds for such a costly work, in the immediate future, no further action has been taken.

Rural Reconstruction Centres.

22. ***Mr. T. Krishna Pillai** (*Kalkulam and Vilavankod* cum *Neyyattinkara*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of rural reconstruction centres opened so far ;

(*b*) the total expenditure incurred ; and

(*c*) the nature and the extent of work turned out till now ?

Mr. A. Gopala Menon (*President, Economic Development Board*) : (*a*) Government do not open rural reconstruction centres under their direct responsibility but, in the case of centres conducted by non-official agencies and carrying on satisfactory work, Government offer assistance by means of departmental services and advice as well as grants-in-aid through the Economic Development Board. In 1116, there were 20 centres recognised by the Economic Development Board.

(*b*) The total amount disbursed by the Economic Development Board by way of grants to rural reconstruction centres, in 1116, was Rs. 3,500. (Over and above this Government also give an annual grant of Rs. 3,000 to the Y. M. C. A. for their rural reconstruction work in Travancore).

(*c*) The work done by rural reconstruction centres is largely in the nature of demonstration and propaganda in respect of improved agricultural methods, cottage industries, village sanitation, co-operative sale, adult education, etc.

Effects of the recent cyclone in Parur Taluk.

23. ***Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*) : Will the Government be pleased:

(*a*) to lay on the table a statement showing :—

(i) the total acreage of land in Parur taluk under cocoanut cultivation,

(ii) the number of cocoanut trees completely destroyed by the cyclone of Edavam 1116,

(iii) the total number of existing trees which have been affected by the cyclone, and

(iv) the average maximum income derivable from a bearing cocoanut tree in the said taluk ; and

* The member was absent.

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